

CHAPTER NO. 177

SENATE BILL NO. 825

By McLeary, Black

Substituted for: House Bill No. 1107

By McMillan, Maddox, Hargrove, Litz, Yokley, Coleman, Cobb, Sontany, Fitzhugh, Maddox, Henri Brooks, Cooper

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49 and Title 68, relative to meningococcal disease.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 50, is amended by adding the following language as a new section to be designated as follows:

§ 49-6-5005.

Local education agencies shall ensure that schools provide parents and guardians with information about meningococcal disease and the effectiveness of vaccination against meningococcal disease at the beginning of every school year. This information shall include the causes, symptoms, and means by which meningococcal disease is spread and the places where parents and guardians may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a local education agency or school to provide or purchase vaccine against meningococcal disease.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-13-111(c), is amended by designating the existing language as subdivision (1) and by adding the following language as new subdivision (2):

(2) The governing body of a public charter school shall ensure that the public charter school provides parents and guardians with information about meningococcal disease and the effectiveness of vaccination against meningococcal disease at the beginning of every school year. This information shall include the causes, symptoms, and the means by which meningococcal disease is spread and the places where parents and guardians may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a public charter school or its governing body to provide or purchase vaccine against meningococcal disease.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 50, Part 8, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

§ 49-50-802.

Non-public schools shall provide parents and guardians with information about meningococcal disease and the effectiveness of vaccination against meningococcal disease at the beginning of every school year. This information shall include the causes, symptoms, and the means by which meningococcal disease is spread and the places where parents and guardians may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a non-public school to provide or purchase vaccine against meningococcal disease.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050, is amended by adding the following language as new subsection (d):

(d) The department of education shall provide annually to home schools, with which they have contact, information about meningococcal disease and the effectiveness of vaccination against meningococcal disease at the beginning of every school year. This information shall include the causes, symptoms, and the means by which meningococcal disease is spread and the places where parents and guardians may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children. This information may be provided electronically or on the department's Web site. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the department of education to provide or purchase vaccine against meningococcal disease.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-1-1202, is amended by adding the following language as new item (12):

(12) Make available to the department of education educational materials appropriate for distribution so that the information required by this act can be provided to parents and guardians. The

department of education may provide this information, at its discretion, electronically or on its Web site. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the department of education to provide or purchase vaccine against meningococcal disease.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: April 28, 2005


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 17th day of May 2005


PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR